

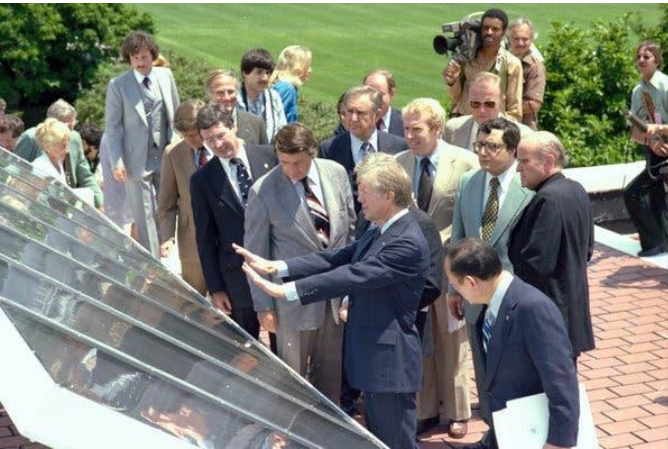


NATIONAL
ARCHIVES

THE
Jimmy Carter
PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

Planning for the Future: President Carter and the Energy Crisis

Students & Teachers, Grades 8-12



THE WHITE HOUSE				THE DAILY DIARY OF PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER	
LOCATION		DATE (M, D, YR)		TIME	
THE WHITE HOUSE		MARCH 8, 1979		MON. 8:00	
WASHINGTON, D.C.				TUE. 8:00	
YEAR		MONTH		ACTIVITY	
DATE	TIME	1	2		
3-8-79	8:00			The President received a wake up call from the White House signal board operator.	
3-8-79	8:00			The President went to his private office.	
3-8-79	8:30			The President met with his Assistant for National Security Affairs, (Stephen Bosworth).	
3-8-79	8:45			The President met with:	
3-8-79	8:45			Walter F. Mondale, Vice President	
3-8-79	8:45			Frank B. Rowle, Assistant for Congressional Liaison	
3-8-79	8:45			Benjamin Jordan, Assistant	
3-8-79	8:45			Joseph L. "Judy" Powell, Press Secretary	
3-8-79	8:45			The President went to the Cabinet Room.	
3-8-79	9:30			The President met with members of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. For a list of attendees, see [REDACTED].	
3-8-79	9:30			The President returned to his private office.	
3-8-79	9:30			The President went to the Rose Garden.	
3-8-79	9:30			The President participated in a signing ceremony for: S. 884, Bill Creating the Department of Energy and U.S. Steel, Small Business Administration Act. Nomination of James B. Schlesinger to be Secretary of the Department of Energy. For a list of attendees, see [REDACTED].	
3-8-79	9:30			Address of the press.	
3-8-79	9:30			The President addressed guests attending the ceremony.	
3-8-79	10:00			The President returned to his private office.	
3-8-79	10:15			The President met with:	
3-8-79	10:15			Mr. Powell	
3-8-79	10:15			Mrs. L. Groom, Deputy Press Secretary	
3-8-79	10:15			The President met with the First Lady.	
3-8-79	10:15			The President went to the Diplomatic Reception Room.	
3-8-79	10:30			The President and the First Lady went to the South Grounds.	



Supporting the National Archives



Mission

We drive openness, cultivate public participation, and strengthen our nation's democracy through public access to high-value government records.

Vision

Cutting-edge access to extraordinary volumes of government information and unprecedented engagement to bring greater meaning to the American experience.

Values

Collaborate. Innovate. Learn

Left: Transfer of Charters of Freedom to the National Archives, 12/13/1952 (National Archives Identifier: [5928179](#))

National Archives History

1934: Established to preserve and care for records of the U.S. Government

1949: Incorporated with General Services Administration

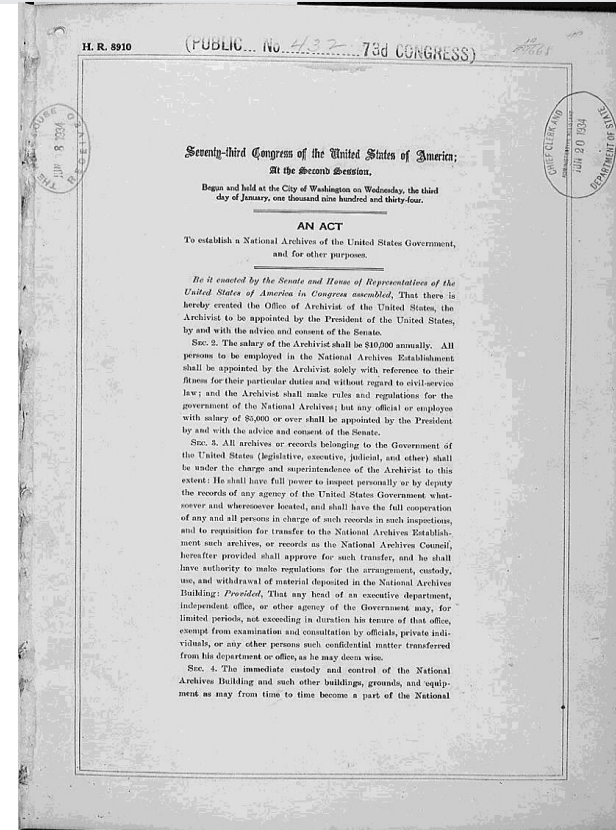
1985: Made independent agency

40 facilities across the country

- Federal Records Centers
- Presidential Libraries
- Office of the Federal Register
- Regional Facilities



Right: MO 1947.93.74; Wheelchair Used by Franklin Roosevelt; ca. 1941-1945; Personal Possessions of the Roosevelt Family, 1941 – 2020 (FDR Library) **Far Right:** An Act of June 19, 1934 ("National Archives Act"), Public Law 73-432, 48 STAT 1122, to Create a National Archives of the United States Government, and for Other Purposes (National Archives Identifier: [299840](#))



Presidential Libraries



Above: Map of NARA's Presidential Libraries (Nixon Library)

General Overview

- Initiated by FDR, 1939
- Formalized by Presidential Libraries Act of 1955
- Not mandatory, discretion of outgoing President
- Land acquisition & construction paid for by private, non-federal sources
- Managed by NARA in partnership with private foundations
- 14 Total (Hoover through Obama)

Carter Presidential Library

- Opened October 1, 1986
- 40 million pages of written materials
- 40,000 museum objects/artifacts
- 500,000 photographs
- 2,500 hours of film, audio and video tape

Right: A portion of the Carter Library archival collections as seen from the museum floor (Carter Library)

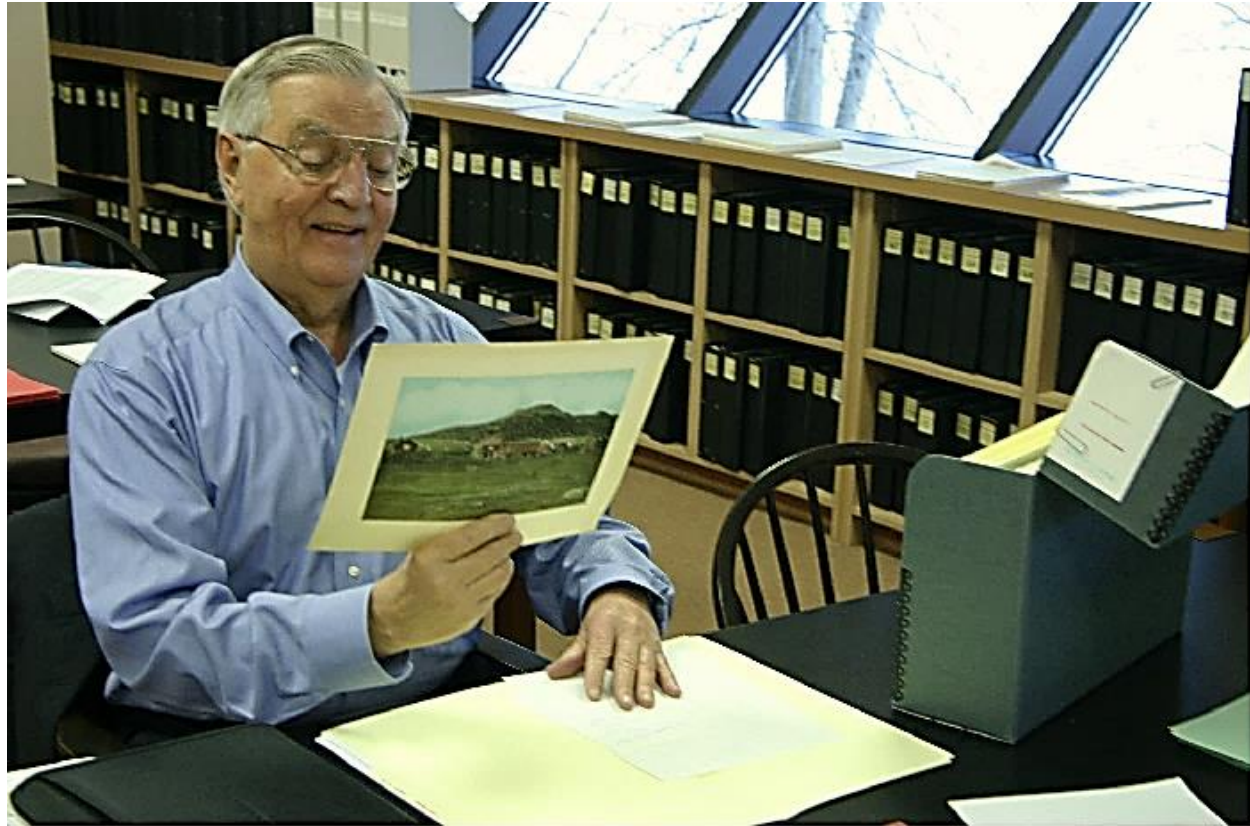


Research: Carter Library Website

www.jimmycarterlibrary.gov

- Research policies and procedures (normal operations)
- List of collections w/descriptions
- Frequently requested topics
- “Ask an Archivist/Education Specialist ” online submission form

Right: Former Vice-President Walter Mondale conducting research at the Carter Library (Carter Library)



Program Overview



How Did We Get Here?

- Circumstances of the Energy Crisis
- Cold War Connections
- U.S. Foreign Policy in the Middle East

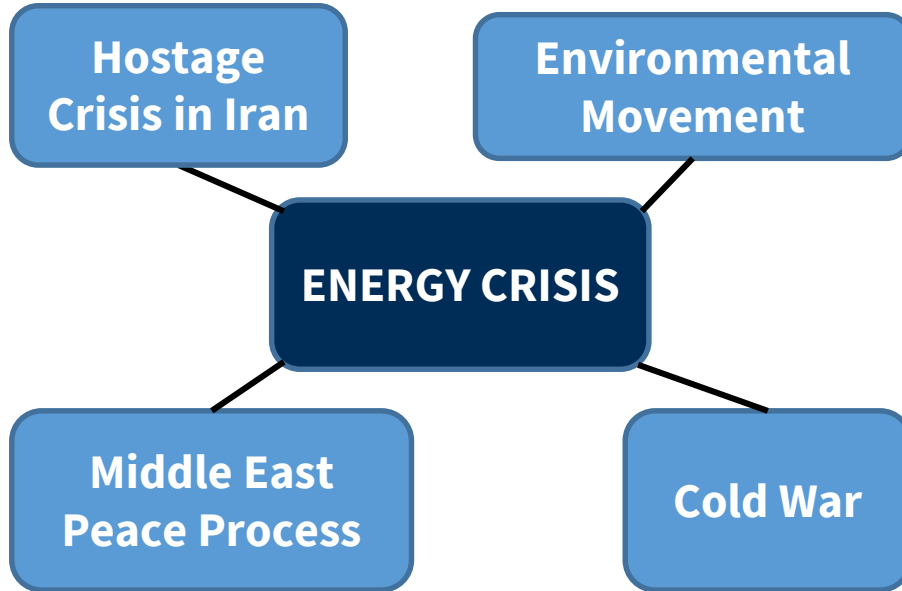
President Carter's Response

- Constitutional Solutions
- Engaging Americans and the Global Community
- Impact of Other Crises

Left: An empty gasoline pump during the gas shortage, 6/1973 (National Archives Identifier: [548175](#))

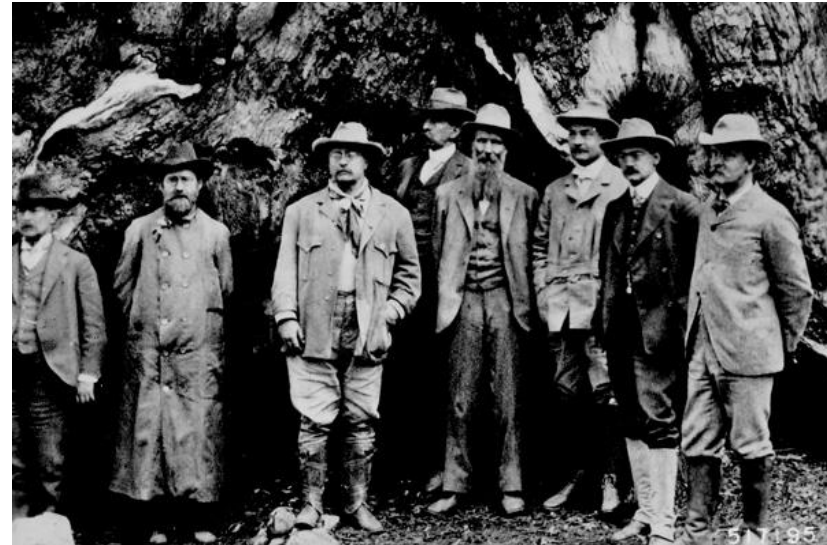
Making Connections

Which event do YOU think is most responsible for the Energy Crisis?



“When we try to pick out anything by itself, we find it hitched to everything else in the Universe.”

—John Muir—



Above: Teddy Roosevelt, John Muir, Gifford Pinchot and others pose in front of a Giant Sequoyah Tree (National Archives Identifier: [2132678](#))

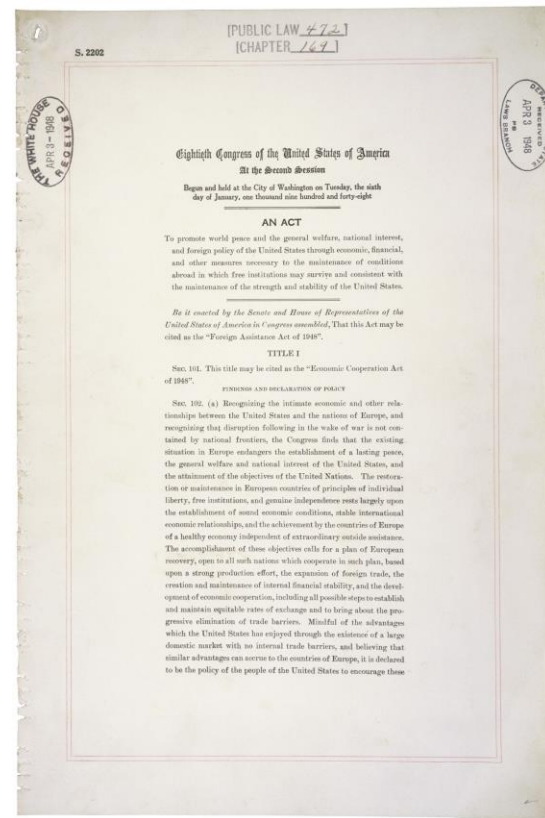
How Did We Get Here?

What were the circumstances of the Energy Crisis?

- **Supply & Demand of Energy Post-WWII**
 - Population Boom
 - Exponential economic growth
- **United States Foreign Policy Post-WWII**
 - Cold War with Soviet Union
 - Middle East Peace Process

Further Inquiry: Learn more from the National Archives about how [The Marshall Plan](#) supported U.S. foreign policy and its Cold War allies following WWII

Right: Law establishing the Marshall Plan, 4/3/1948 (National Archives Identifier: [299857](#))



Population Boom

United States 1940-1980

- Population increases 71%
- Real Gross Domestic Product increases 508%
- Heavy reliance on cheap fossil fuels/foreign oil for expanding population and economy; U.S. imported 25% of OPEC's oil

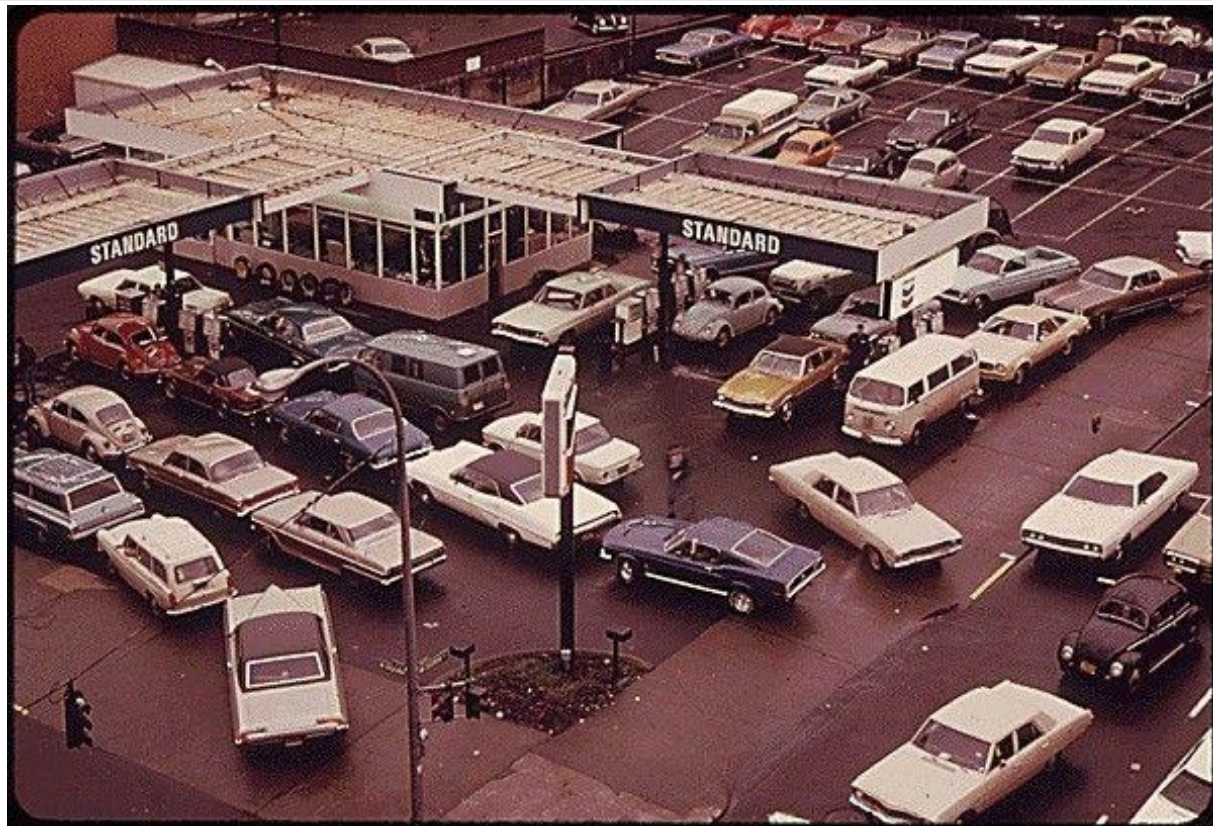
Left: After World War II, the number and density of suburban housing developments, such as the one shown in this aerial photo, increased dramatically. Postwar prosperity and a “baby boom” fueled suburban sprawl (National Archives Identifier: [595663](#))

Supply & Demand

Impact on Daily Life

- What aspects of our daily lives depend on the availability of energy? (OR, which don't?)
- What industries do you think would have been most affected?
- What role does each branch of the government play in resolving this crisis?

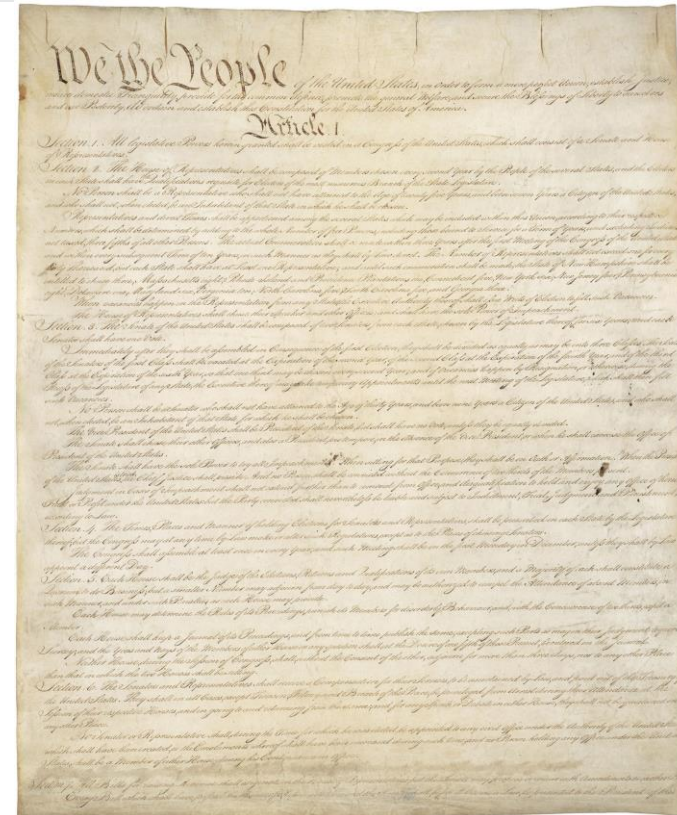
Right: Bird's eye view of an average gas station in Portland, Oregon, 12/1973 (National Archives Identifier: [555457](#))



President Carter's Response

What Constitution-based solutions were available to President Carter to address the Energy Crisis?

- **Congressional Legislation** ([Article I, Section 1](#))
 - Subject to approval or veto by the President
- **Executive Action** ([Article II, Section 1](#))
 - Powers not relegated to other branches, nor explicitly denied to the Executive
- **Diplomacy** ([Article II, Section 2](#))
 - Presidential appointment of U.S. Ambassadors
 - Power to make treaties with foreign nations (requires 2/3 Senate approval)



Right: The Preamble and Article I of the United States Constitution (National Archives Identifier: [1667751](#))

Congressional Legislation

Congressional Legislation Approved by Carter

- [Emergency Natural Gas Act, 1977](#)
- [Department of Energy Organization Act, 1977](#)
- [National Energy Act, 1978](#)
- [Energy Security Act, 1980](#)

Right: Attorney General Griffin Bell swears in Secretary of Energy James Schlesinger with Mrs. James Schlesinger and Jimmy Carter, 8/5/1977 (National Archives Identifier: [175828](#))

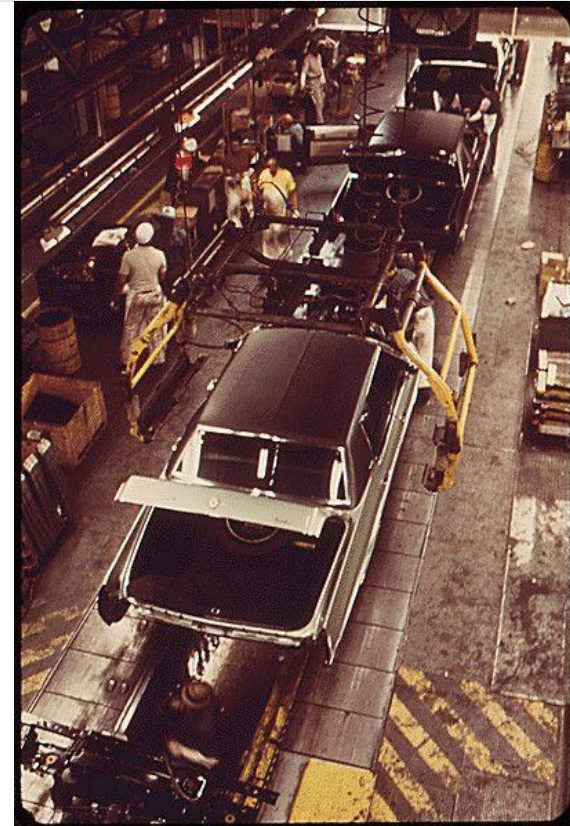


Fuel Efficiency Standards

The Automobile Fuel Efficiency Act of 1980

- Sets new Corporate Average Fuel Economy Standards (CAFE) previously set in [Energy Policy & Conservation Act of 1975](#)
- Increase fuel efficiency & lower carbon emissions
- Promotion of domestic automobile production
- Provides flexibility for future administrations to adjust standards in response to economic conditions
- Judicial Branch continues to allow exemptions to [anti-trust laws](#) for energy companies during times of crisis

Right: Car bodies being dropped onto frames on the Cadillac assembly line, 6/1973 (National Archives Identifier: [549724](#))



Executive Action



President Jimmy Carter, 01/26/1977
(National Archives Identifier: [173490](#))

Carter's Executive Actions on Energy

Executive Order [11969](#): Administration of the Emergency Natural Gas Act of 1977 (2/2/1977)

Executive Order [12003](#): Relating to Energy Policy and Conservation (7/20/1977)

Executive Order [12009](#): Providing for the effectuation of the Department of Energy Organization Act (9/13/1977)

Executive Order [12038](#): Relating to certain functions transferred to the Secretary of Energy by the Department of Energy Organization Act (2/3/1978)

Executive Order [12142](#): The Alaska Natural Gas Transportation System (6/21/1979)

Executive Order [12185](#): Conservation of Petroleum and Natural Gas (12/17/1979)

Executive Order [12231](#): Strategic Petroleum Reserve (8/4/1980)

Executive Order [12235](#): Management of Natural Gas Supplies Emergencies (9/3/1980)

Engaging Americans

How did Carter engage the American People?

- [Fireside Chats](#)
- “Wear a sweater”
- Use of Pop Culture
- Establishes National Energy Education Day

Right: “The Battle of the Energy Drainers!” comic book created by Marvel in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Energy (Carter Library)

Far Right: Sweater worn by President Carter during a Fireside Chat on Energy, 2/2/1977 (Carter Library)



Engaging Americans

Promotion of Renewable and Domestic Energy Sources

- Solar Panels
- Wind Turbines
- Ethanol
- Coal
- Natural Gas
- Nuclear Power

Learn more about the installation of [solar panels](#) on the roof of the Carter Library

Right: President Carter shows off solar panels installed on the White House roof during his administration (Carter Library)



Engaging the Global Community

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.6
PER [signature] NO. [signature] RE NLS-94-1
BY [signature] NARS DATE 7/14/97
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 21, 1977

Dear President Sadat,

When we met privately in the White House, I was deeply impressed and grateful for your promise to me that, at a crucial moment, I could count on your support when obstacles arose in our common search for peace in the Middle East. We have reached such a moment, and I need your help.

Secretary Vance has provided clarifications to many of your questions regarding the procedures outlined in the United States working paper. There is adequate flexibility in the language to accommodate your concerns.

#4

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

The time has now come to move forward, and your early public endorsement of our approach is extremely important - perhaps vital - in advancing all parties to peace.

This is a personal appeal for your support.

My very best wishes to you and your family.

Your friend,
Jimmy Carter

Diplomacy

- Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline Agreement with Canada
- Mexican Natural Gas Agreement
- Middle East Peace Process
 - Camp David Accords

Left: Letter written by Jimmy Carter to Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, 10/21/1977 (Carter Library)

Peace in the Middle East



Camp David Accords

- Ends four decades of war between Egypt and Israel, normalizes diplomatic relations
- Israeli withdrawal from Sinai Peninsula
- Bolsters U.S. relationship with Egypt, erodes Soviet influence in Middle East
- Mitigates future Arab-Israeli conflicts that destabilize global energy markets

Learn more about the role of the [CIA and Intelligence](#) in the Camp David Accords

Left: Jimmy Carter and Menachem Begin with members of the Israeli delegation at Camp David, 09/17/1978
(National Archives Identifier: [181417](#))

1979-1980: Two White Houses

One Dealing with Hostage Crisis in Iran, One With Everything Else:

- Energy Crisis
- Double-digit unemployment and inflation aka “stagflation”
- Soviet Invasion of Afghanistan
 - Boycott of 1980 Olympics in Moscow
- Three Mile Island Nuclear Disaster
- 1980 Presidential Election
 - Primary Challenge from Ted Kennedy

Right: Senator Edward Kennedy meets with Jimmy Carter, 12/5/1977 (National Archives Identifier: [177025](#))



The Environmental Movement

Effects of Economic Boom

- **1950s-60s:** Heightened public concerns about deteriorating city air, natural areas littered with debris, and urban water supplies contaminated with dangerous impurities
- **1970:** President Nixon creates [Environmental Protection Agency](#) to establish national guidelines and enforce them

Right: Children Play in Yard of Ruston Home, while Tacoma Smelter Stack Shows Area with Arsenic and Lead Residue, 8/1972 (National Archives Identifier: [545246](#))

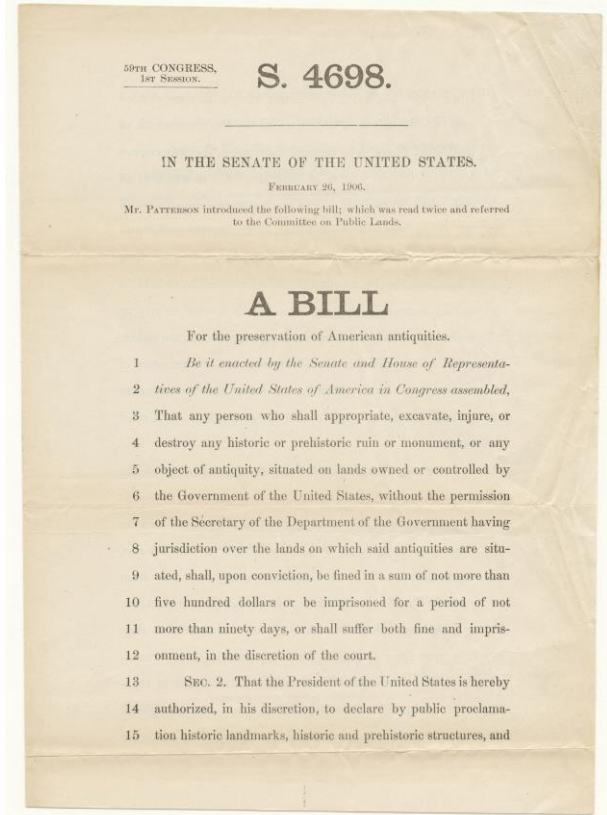


Securing the Environment & Energy

Alaska National Interest Conservation Lands Act of 1980 ([ANILCA](#))

- Carter uses [Antiquities Act](#) to pressure Congress to act
- Provides Comprehensive Federal Guidance for:
 - Wilderness
 - Mining
 - Subsistence
 - Public Access
 - **Transportation/Utility Corridors**
 - Hunting, trapping and fishing
 - **Oil and Gas Leasing**

Right: S. 4698, A Bill for the Preservation of American Antiquities (National Archives Identifier: [28264995](#))



Nuclear Energy



Carter and the Nuclear Age

- Studies reactor technology and nuclear physics in submarine school after graduating from U.S. Naval Academy
- Assisted in the design and development of nuclear propulsion plants for naval vessels
- Led first nuclear meltdown response team in history at Chalk River Laboratories in Ontario, Canada, 1952

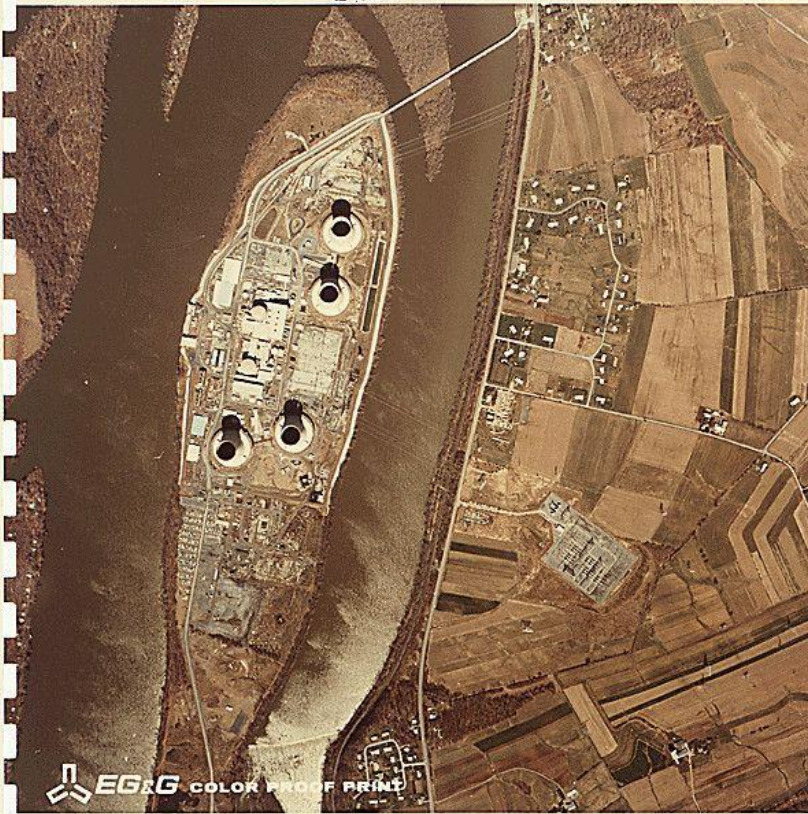
Left: Lieutenant James Earl “Jimmy” Carter in main control room of USS K-1 ([Naval History and Heritage Command](#))

Nuclear Energy

Three Mile Island Disaster, March 1979

- Partial core meltdown in one reactor, subsequent radiation leak
- Result of mechanical failure and human error
- Turns public opinion against nuclear energy, no new plants not already planned built in U.S. since
- Still accounts for 20% of energy supply

Left: Aerial view of Three Mile Island Nuclear Power Plant in Middletown, Pennsylvania, 4/10/1979 (National Archives Identifier: [540012](#))



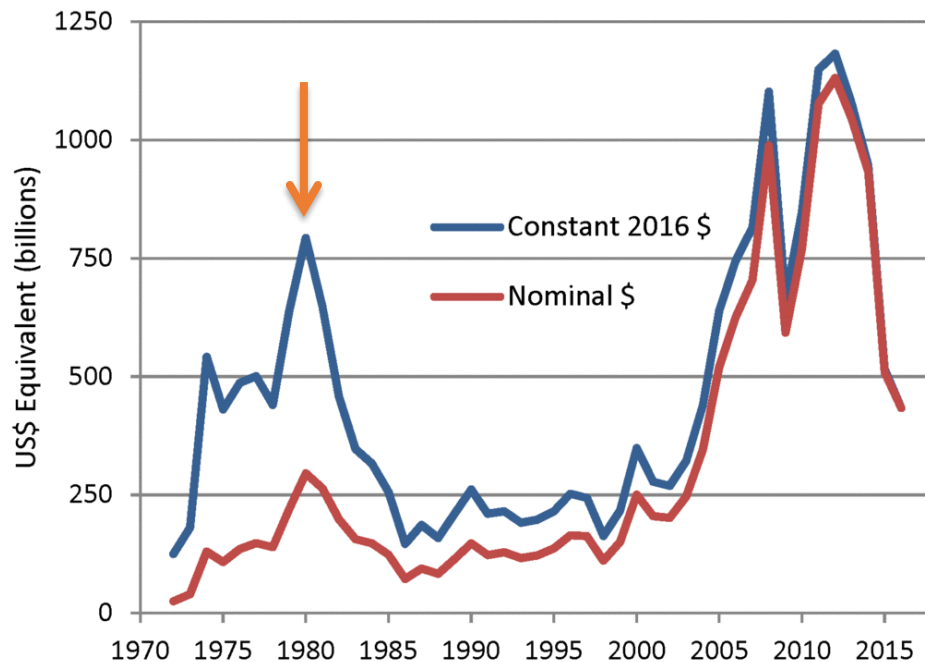
Hostage Crisis in Iran

Iranian Revolution/[Hostage Crisis in Iran](#), November 1979

- Pro-American Shah flees, seeks medical treatment in U.S. after Ayatollah Khomeini takes power
- 52 Americans taken hostage in response, held 444 days
- Nationalized Iranian Oil severely reduces production, cost per barrel soars

Right: Fluctuations of OPEC net oil export revenues since 1972 (U.S. Energy Information Administration)

OPEC Net Oil Export Revenues



Analysis of Carter's Response

Mixed Results

- First comprehensive Energy plan in nation's history
- U.S. imports of foreign oil drops from 8.81 million barrels/day in 1977 to 6.00 million in 1981 ([U.S. Energy Information Administration](#))
- Conservation and use of renewable energy introduced to mainstream society
- “Stagflation” continues as a result of inflation and unemployment both above 10% as a result of rising fuel costs

Left: Photograph of Jimmy Carter in the White House Library during a Televised Fireside Chat on Energy, 2/2/1977 (National Archives Identifier: [173549](#))

Civics Review

Facilitated Dialogue

- How effectively did the Constitution equip the government to resolve the Energy Crisis? Was it in any way hindered?
- To what extent did U.S. foreign policy overlap with domestic policies during the Energy Crisis? Can they be independent of each other?

Clockwise from top: Supreme Court Building (National Archives Identifier: [594954](#)) The United States Capitol, 1/15/1977 (National Archives Identifier: [6384310](#)) The White House, 1/15/1977 (National Archives Identifier: [6384319](#))





Further Inquiry

Additional Primary Sources to Investigate

[The Record of Jimmy Carter \(National Archives Identifier: 143373\)](#)

[Briefing Material on National Energy Plan, 10/19/1977 \(National Archives Identifier: 142736\)](#)

[Codification of Presidential Proclamations and Executive Orders on Energy \(NARA\)](#)

[Camp David Accords Research Resources \(Carter Library\)](#)

[The DOCUMERICA Photography Project: Searching for the Seventies \(NARA Google Arts & Culture Exhibit\)](#)

[President Carter's Fireside Chat on Energy \(C-SPAN\)](#)

[Carter's "Malaise Speech" \(American Presidency Project\)](#)

Student Application



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Jimmy Carter
THE
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Primary Document Analysis Exercise

1. Review the presentation and select two different types of primary sources to further investigate.
2. Download and complete the appropriate [Document Analysis Worksheets](#) for your primary sources; it's okay if your sources cannot provide answers for every question.
3. What connections can you draw between the historical significance of these primary sources and current events? Your answers are not limited to energy or environmental issues.
4. Discuss with class at instructor's discretion.